

**CITY OF LONG BEACH  
DEPARTMENT OF PARKS, RECREATION & MARINE  
MUNICIPAL GOLF COMMISSION MINUTES  
AUGUST 25, 2004**

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting of the Municipal Golf Commission was called to order by Bill Townsend, Chairman, at 3:33 p.m. in the classroom at the Long Beach Junior Golf Academy Building, 6730 E. Carson Street, Long Beach, California. Thomas Shippey, Manager of Maintenance Operations Bureau, took roll call and confirmed a quorum.

**Present:** Skip Rowland, Chairman  
Phil Barlow, Vice-Chairman  
Gail Berns  
John McCann  
Tonny Christensen  
Becky Turley  
Len Kennett  
Bill Townsend  
Bob Peeters  
Ray McElhenney

**Excused:** Linda Cook, Robin Bellamy, and Betty Hatcher

**Staff:** Tom Shippey, Manager of Maintenance Operations  
Terry Lortz, Superintendent of Golf Operations  
Amy Arteaga, Golf Operations Support

**American Golf:** Jeff DeFranco, General Manager at Recreation Park 18

**Audience:** Bob Livingstone  
Bill Barfield  
Al Theriault  
Cindy Fry, Beach Comber Newspaper  
Jason Gewirtz, Press -Telegram

**2. ANNUAL ELECTION OF OFFICERS**

- Mr. Shippey opened up the topic of annual election of officers and asked for any nominations from the commissioners for the position of chair and vice-chair to serve during the 2004-2005 term.
- Commissioner Barlow nominated Vice-Chair Rowland to serve as chair of the commission.

**It was moved by Commissioner Barlow and seconded by Commissioner Berns that the Municipal Golf Commission approve the nomination of Vice-Chair Rowland to serve as chair of the commission. The motion carried unanimously.**

- Commissioner Townsend nominated Commissioner Barlow to serve as vice-chair of the commission.

**It was moved by Commissioner Townsend and seconded by Commissioner Kennett that the Municipal Golf Commission approve the nomination of Commissioner Barlow to serve as Vice-Chair of the commission. The motion carried unanimously.**

- Chairman Rowland announced the committee selection process for the term 2004-2005. Commissioners were given the opportunity to sign up for the committee of their choice. The list was submitted to Chairman Rowland and he will make and recommend the commissioner assignments to each of the committees.

## **2. INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS**

- Chairman Rowland welcomed and introduced Heather Mahood, City Attorney's Office who gave an overview of the Code of Ethics Handbook for Long Beach City Officials, Employees and Commission Members. Ms. Mahood stated that the goal of this handbook is to increase awareness of the ethics, conflicts of interest and open meetings laws that will govern the commissioner's service, and provides information about how to seek advice on these matters from the Office of the City Attorney.

## **3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – JUNE 16, 2004**

- The minutes of the June 16, 2004 meeting were reviewed and approved with one minor change. On Capital Improvements Report change women's restroom at Recreation Park 18 to the restroom at Recreation Park 18.

**It was moved by Commissioner Townsend and seconded by Commissioner McElhenney that the Municipal Golf Commission approve the minutes. The motion carried unanimously.**

## **4. GOLF SUPERINTENDENT REPORT**

- Rounds of golf for June were down by 403 (-1%) over the total course rounds for June. Total rounds of golf were up by 7,174 (3.43%) for the year compared to this time last year. **(Skylinks was removed from the comparison)**
- Rounds of golf for July were down by 1,039 (-2.56%) over the total course rounds for July. Total rounds of golf were up by 6,135 (2.46%) for the year compared to this time last year. **(Skylinks was removed from the comparison)**
- Mr. Lortz asked the commissioners if they had any questions or comments on the rounds/financial report for the months of June and July.

**5. AMERICAN GOLF REPORT**

- CIP Golf Fund - Available balance approximately = **\$265,423.00**
- Junior Golf 1% Fund-Available balance as of July 31, 2004 = **\$73,151.85**
- General Manager's Course Maintenance Update-Jeff DeFranco:
  - El Dorado Golf Course:
    - 1. Gofer holes 80% complete.
  - Heartwell Golf Course:
    - 1. Repainting and recarpeting will be completed by September 2<sup>nd</sup>.
    - 2. #14 lake water will talk to Steve Dewitt about making sure the water is recirculating.
  - Recreation Park 9 Golf Course:
    - 1. Bench refurbishment in progress.
    - 2. New cooler will be ordered and secured.
- Ms. Lisa Georgeson provided an update on the various junior golf programs in our City.
  - The Long Beach Junior Golf Association now has 500 registered members. We will begin our club championship in September. The LBJGA will also host the 10<sup>th</sup> annual Heartwell Open on September 25<sup>th</sup>. This tournament is open to all juniors in the Southern California area.
  - The Little Linksters sessions concluded on July 23<sup>rd</sup>. Both weeks were a great success. Approximately 79 participants have applied for membership in the LBJGA.
  - The Get-A-Grip Program is set to continue into the fall season with visits to at least two more Long Beach parks.
  - We will begin planning school visits through the Traveling Golf Clinics.
  - The NAACP Golf Clinics have concluded. Dana Dahlquist of Heartwell Golf Course and Naomi Raney of the NAACP deserve a great thank you.

**6. COMMITTEE STATUS REPORTS**

A. Capital Improvements – Skip Rowland

- Chair Rowland requested a list of all the monies used for CIP.
- The CIP list will have to be reprioritized once the new committee starts.

B. Fees & Charges – Bob Peeters

- Commissioner Peeters submitted the Fees & Charges proposal to Mr. Shippey.

**It was moved by Commissioner Townsend and seconded by Commissioner Berns that the Municipal Golf Commission approve the proposal as submitted. The motion carried unanimously.**

- Chair Rowland asked for any public comment on the proposal.
- Commissioner McCann, I don't like a flat fee for all three golf courses.
- Commissioner Kennett, over 167 interested golfers attended the public meeting on July 19th. I want to read an article I came across regarding a recent lease agreement made by the City of Los Angeles for the driving range and pro-shop. No carts or greens fees just range and pro-shop.
  - Range 35% on gross up to 1.5 million.
  - 37 ½ on gross between 1.5 and 2 million.
  - 40% on gross over 2 million.

In addition for incentive to the City to enter this agreement, capital improvements of 2 to 2.5 million were to be made. Maybe something the City of Long Beach should look into. I know the City of Long Beach is happy with American Golf.

- Bob Livingstone, vote on each fee proposal separately and specify and identify the "user fee". All courses should charge the same fees.
- Mr. Barfield, excellent job for a great report. Skylinks will lose at the men's and women's club it's way to expensive to play.
- Commissioner Townsend thanked all the commissioners for a great job and especially Commissioner Peeters for working on the proposal in a timely manner.
- Vice-Chair Barlow, the City has already decided what to do. The committee has put a great proposal together.
- Commissioner Peeters, we want the fees to be affordable to all interested golfers.

- Mr. Shippey, first I would like to congratulate Commissioner Peeters and the committee for a great job done considering the short time frame. Very outstanding and worked within the guidelines and concepts in addition to other things taking place such as the Long Beach Open and commissioner's being on vacation.
- Mr. Shippey, I didn't attend the July 19<sup>th</sup> public meeting because it's Mr. Lortz' responsibility and he has more experience.
- Mr. Shippey, I would like to clarify that the City hasn't made up their mind on what they should charge. I look out for what's good for Long Beach. The City Manager's office will be involved in the discussions.
- Commissioner Christensen, I love Long Beach and I wish American Golf would put some money.

C. Hall of Fame – Len Kennett

- Commissioner Kennett informed the commission on the great success of the Hall of Fame inductions at the Long Beach Open. Everything went along as scheduled with no problems. A special thank you to Bob Livingstone for all his help!

D. Policies & Procedures– Tonny Christensen

- No committee report.

E. Tournaments – Dorothy Deatherage

- Commissioner Deatherage informed the commission of the upcoming Flossie Lewis Center shotgun tournament at El Dorado Golf Course on Saturday, October 2, 2004 for 144 players at 1:00 p.m.

F. Junior Golf Advisory – Linda Cook

- No committee report.

**7. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

Skylinks Golf Course Renovation Update. The following summary was provided to the commissioners:

- The golf course is 90% complete working on a punch list for the next couple of months. American Golf is putting in nitrogen with their staff and money.

Strategic Plan Update:

- Nothing to report.

**8. NEW BUSINESS**

New Committees for 2004/2005 have been selected and the list will be distributed to the commissioners.

**9. COMMENTS**

A. AUDIENCE

- Bob Livingston presented a check for \$500.00 from the El Dorado Men's Club donated to Junior Golf Program.

B. STAFF

- None

C. COMMISSIONERS

- Chair Rowland - I understand Mez White is leaving. Jeff Defranco, said that Mez is out on leave until the end of September 2004. Who is going to replace Mez in the interim?
- Commissioner McCann - D.G. why is it being used, it's not good.
- Commissioner Peeters – too much standing water at El Dorado Golf Course. Divots in fairway are being replaced and filled - thank you.
- Chair Rowland - the new maintenance standards will be included in the contract.
- Commissioner McCann - very bad standing water at Recreation Park 9.
- Commissioner Rowland - continue fixing potholes at the end of the cart paths at Recreation Park 9 – too deep and full of water.
- Commissioner McCann - still waiting for the water cooler to be replaced at Recreation Park 9 – it has been a couple of months.
- Commissioner Berns - the lakes at Heartwell aren't recirculating and are in bad condition and can breed mosquitoes. Mr. Lortz – said that AGC is working with the County to put mosquito fish in the lakes to help keep mosquitoes out. Commissioner Berns - the lakes are not circulating I'm sure of that.

- Commissioners Peeters - the rough at El Dorado Golf Course is way too tall. Slows play looking for ball. How often is it being cut? Its taking way too long before it is cut!
- Commissioner Peeters, attachment H is part of the lease agreement with American Golf.
- Mr. Shippey, attachment H is an informal memo written by Tom Frost as an attachment to the packet that was attached to the memo sent to the City Manager from Mr. Hester. Letters, MOU's, and attachments aren't part of the contract only amendments can be made to change the lease. American Golf is exceeding the maintenance standards in the lease. We can't enforce an attachment that is not part of the lease with American Golf Corporation.
- Commissioner Peeters - thanked the Fees & Charges Committee members for all their hard work and dedication.
- Vice-Chair Barlow - accumulated CIP what happened to the money these past three years starting with the \$1.2 million.
- Commissioner Townsend - I would like to thank the entire commission for their support these past two years in my position as chair. I would also like to thank all the committee chairs from each committee.

**10. NEXT MEETING**

**October 27, 2004 at 3:30 p.m.  
Heartwell Junior Golf Building  
6730 E. Carson Street  
Long Beach, CA 90808**

**11. ADJOURNMENT**

- Meeting adjourned at 5:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Emy Arteaga  
Golf Operations Support

c: Municipal Golf Commission  
Reginald I. Harrison, Deputy City Manager  
Phil T. Hester, Director of Parks, Recreation and Marine  
Thomas A. Shippey, Manager of Maintenance Operations  
Terry L. Lortz, Superintendent of Golf Operations  
Jay Carballo, Regional Director of American Golf Corporation  
Lisa Georgeson, Director of Junior Golf Programs